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Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 33 | Min 21 | Humidity 37% Partly cloudy Sensex 57,593 | Nifty 17,222 | Gold 51,524 | Silver 68,120 | Dollar 76.10 | Euro 83.47 | GBP 99.62

What civic body has forgotten, active citizens are doing as mercury rises: watering plants and maintaining sidewalk gardens along arterial roads

CONSTANT GARDENERS

BBMP had promised green patches along 60 roads

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In 2020, the BBMP had come forward with a project worth Rs 40 crore to beautify the cityscape that had already lost a share of its green cover to rapid concretisation, not to mention works such as white-topping and TenderSURE road repairs.

The civic body had promised well maintained green patches along nearly 60 prominent roads and junctions in the city and did its best to keep its word.

The ornamental plants looked great initially, enhancing the visual appeal of the roads and junctions, lifting the overall aesthetics and ambience of the urban setting.

However, the question was, who would maintain the sidewalk gardens. Soon after TenderSURE works wrapped up, BBMP workers in charge did not return or visit these areas to maintain what they had planted.

The plants managed to survive through the occasional rainfall and voluntary watering by those who cared, but could not for long, until a few people from the neighbourhood

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 »

A file photo of a TenderSURE stretch in happier times; Manjeet watering the plants on a neglected stretch (inset)

"Plants are not watered and maintained near the LIC stone building... they looked withered in the summer days..."

– Marianne de Nazareth, resident

Jobs for autistic persons: Fact check

Lack of strength-based education in primary, secondary and higher years

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There is a huge gap between employment opportunities available to neurotypical and autistic individuals, professionals said. Due to a lack of jobs available, autistic individuals are forced to pursue limited and financially unviable options.

Assured basic education often fails to translate into a career for many autistic individuals. Autistic students are provided mainstream education not attuned to their needs, and pedagogy that provides just bare minimum skillsets.

Akshayee Shetty who runs a vocational centre for autistic persons, Sense Kaleidoscope, said there aren't many livelihood options available for autistic individuals in India.

"Available options mostly revolve around activities like paper-bag making and candle-making that do not guarantee financial stability. Nowadays corporations are keen on actively hiring autistic individuals but they complain of persons without required skill sets. A lack of strength-based education in the primary, secondary and higher years is the main reason for this," she said.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Royal heritage

For the first time, Bengaluru is gearing up to host the heritage of royalties from the princely states of India. Royal Fables, in association with FICCI, Flo will host a one-day pop-up exhibition featuring products made in Indian palace studios helmed by designers and design professionals born to the royal blood. There will be thirty rare pieces curated from across the country. **Where: Leela Palace**
When: March 29, 11am onwards

02 It's drama time

Catch Antaranga's new play Project Nagna. This play is being performed as a part of the Nataka Bengaluru Theatre festival. The play is a translation of a famous English play, PROJECT S.T.R.I.P. written by well-known playwright Ram Ganesh Kamatam. Kamatam's play is an absorbing attempt to portray the dilemma between development and the plight of the people affected by it. **Where: Ranga Shankara**
When: March 31, 7:30pm
Tickets: Rs 150, bookmyshow.com

03 For the marginalised

Blr Creative Circus is presenting a discounted sale for the marginalised sex workers and transgender community who are based on the fringes of the city by The Preloved Co with Sangama. Their goal is for them to have access to fashion and work wear which they would otherwise cannot afford. The Preloved Co is a not-for-profit enterprise that keeps fast fashion items from reaching landfills and raises funds for various charities by selling new and gently worn fashionwear.
Where: Bangalore Creative Circus, Yeswanthpur Industrial Suburb
When: March 29, 12pm – 4pm, Entry: Free

Golden knee that helps sexagenarian walk

Sixty-two-year-old woman suffering from osteoarthritis & allergic to most metals gets golden implant; doctors say it is successful & patients recover faster

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A 62-year-old woman in the city who suffered from osteoarthritis, and was allergic to metals, received a 'golden' knee implant which was successfully carried out. Doctors say that this could be used on all patients who have a history of allergies with common metals used in such implants.

As the patient was said to be allergic to metals including nickel and even aluminium, doctors chose this unconventional option for her. She had a history of getting rashes after wearing silver or artificial jewellery, which made the health experts opt for a gold knee implant.

Explaining the procedure, Dr Tarun Bali, Fellowship in Arthroplasty Depuy, USA, Fellowship in Arthroscopy & Sports Medicine SICOT and Consultant Orthopaedics, Santosh Hospital, said, "In these cases, if we perform a surgery using a cobalt chromium knee, the surgery wouldn't even be successful."

According to him, based on the history of the patient, they then sourced for a golden implant devoid of nickel, and contains osmium metal and other rare inert elements which would not be harmful for the patients. Only a few places in South India manufacture this and they sourced it from Chennai.

Osteoarthritis is very common in senior citizens, and many opt for knee replacements to aid mobility

The procedure was also done through a specific model which gives 99 per cent accurate results while the patient can recover faster and move around in five days.

According to Bali, it is a smart, hand-held computer navigation which provides real-time data during the operation and allows experts to increase the accuracy of the bone cuts and positioning of the knee implant.

"The golden knee replacement surgery was carried out on the right leg a year ago, and the patient again came back this year for the golden implant on the left leg as it worked well for her."

However, Dr Bali pointed out that health professionals and patients need to be aware and ask questions about allergies that the patient may have.

"In India, not many questions about the previous allergies for implants. They carry out the surgery and it later fails as the patient is not used to artificial products. After days of surgery, there would be swelling inside the knee and the patient can't walk again."

It places like Europe or Italy, many people have such allergies and the health professionals make it a must to ask them allergy-related questions before the implant is performed, added Dr Bali.

The golden knee implant cost Rs 1 lakh each for a leg, excluding surgery costs. It has a lot of benefits like extreme adhesive strength, allergy protective affect, improved biocompatibility, long term chemical stability and others.

A pain in the knee
Osteoarthritis occurs when cartilage, the tissue that cushions the ends of the bones within the joints, breaks down and wears away.
In some cases, all of the cartilage may wear away, leaving bones that rub up against each other.
The knees are among the joints most commonly affected by osteoarthritis. Symptoms of knee osteoarthritis include stiffness, swelling, and pain, which make it hard to walk, climb, and get in and out of chairs. Osteoarthritis in the knees can lead to disability.

"Health professionals must ask allergy-related questions before doing any procedure on the patient – Dr Tarun Bahl, Santosh Hospital

Zen and the art of watering plants

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

took note and realised the fact: there was no one from the civic authority watering the patches or maintaining these small gardens alongside the roads. However, the citizens took it upon themselves and engaged security guards, drivers and gardeners to take care and maintain the ornamental plants which were seen wilting along the pavements of prominent roads as the summer sets in.

Residents and owners of commercial establishments including the management crew of star hotels on Residency Road, St Mark's Road, Richmond Road and Hayes Road have taken up the responsibility of watering and maintaining the plants upon themselves. They do not want to wait or depend on the civic authorities to water or maintain the plants on the footpaths.

Manjeet (24), a security guard at the Pilerne apartment on Hayes Road makes sure that he waters around 15 to 20 ornamental plants on the footpath in front of the apartment, mornings and evenings. Whenever he is on holiday or on duty on a different shift, he makes sure his supervisor Lakshman or colleague Suman do not miss tending to the plants. They also request the pourakarmikas in the morning to clean up fallen leaves and dust that accumulates around the plants. Supervisor Lakshman told BM that a few residents of the apartment approached them with fertiliser for the plants to grow as there is only a very small amount of soil left for the plants.

Similarly, the gardeners at Ritz-Carlton on Residency Road, regularly waters the plants on the footpath in front of the hotel.

A neighbouring resident, Marianne De Nazareth said the hotel makes sure the plants are tended to with treated water and grey water which is very nutritious to the flora; there is a difference in the growth and blooms of the plants in front of the hotel when compared to other plants on the stretch of the pavement.

The hotel gardeners also trim the plants and keep them in good shape, Nazareth noted. A resident of Hayes Road, Alan Pinto, said citizens have instructed drivers, maids, guards and gardeners not to miss out on watering the plants regularly. An apartment nearby has also engaged gardeners to water the plants on the pavements."

"Many of us on Hayes Road take care of the plants. There are a few commercial entities at Devatha Plaza which is a huge shopping plaza opposite to the Bishop Cotton Boys' School; no one's watering or maintaining the plants along the stretch," Pinto said. "There is also a stretch of plants that are not watered and maintained near the LIC stone building. These plants look withered and dried up. The non-maintenance is more evident during the recent summer days," Nazareth told BM.

"On St Mark's Road, the Prestige building crew along with proprietors of other commercial establishments like NASDAQ, Truffles, House of Lords and Nagarjuna Hotel have all gotten together and engaged a gardener who tends the plants including trimming on the entire stretch," said Nazareth.

Rising steel prices make home dream dearer

Constructing a house has now become a lot costlier as the price of steel –affected by the war in Ukraine and rise in fuel prices – has shot through the roof. As a result, many who had taken out loans, are now recalculating their budgets which may have thrown their plans into disarray. Contractors and traders too are on tenterhooks.

Ramdev R, a techie, said, "I had planned to build an independent house instead of going for a flat. Now, I may have to stop construction as the cost has been escalated."

Ramdev is not the only one, however, to have been affected by the steep prices. BK Laskhmipathi, a civil engineer and a contractor, has been constructing houses for the last 35 years. According to him, this is the first time he is seeing inflation hitting the construction activities so much."

Contractors, traders, & buyers are aghast at the rising prices of steel

The prices are nowhere near what they used to be even two years ago. And this is not just for steel, but for other construction materials as well. For example, steel used to be sold for Rs 38.8 per kilogram two years back. Now, the prices are Rs 85.9 per kg which is an increase of 121.39 per cent. A cement bag (25-kg bag) used to cost Rs 270 two years back and now, the prices are Rs 360 per bag -- an increase of 33.3 per cent. Electric wires used to cost Rs 5 per kg and have now gone up to Rs 12.5 per kg which is an increase of 150 per cent.

Plumbing and CF-fitting materials have gone up from Rs 100 to Rs 150 per kg. A kilogram of aluminium used to cost Rs 190 in October 2020. This increased to Rs 315 in October 2021 and now costs Rs 440 per kg. The price of ply sheets has gone up from Rs 1,792 to Rs 3,100. The fly ash brick which used to cost Rs 7.25 now costs Rs 9 per brick.

ACC blocks have gone from 3,290 to Rs 4,000 in the last two years. Realtors say that with diesel prices increasing on almost a daily basis, the prices will spiral further in coming days as travelling costs will now add to the construction cost as well.

Saransh Trehan, Managing Director of Trehan Group, said, "The prices of cement and steel have increased sharply over the last two years. Steel price has increased over 100 per cent, whereas cement price has gone up by more than 30 per cent in the last two years. Similarly, the cost of aluminum materials, electric wire, paints, and stone all increased by more than 50 per cent during the same period."

Saransh added that this has led to a sharp increase in the per-square-feet construction cost. We have not been able to pass on the increase in input cost to customers.

But the relentless rise in input costs is hurting our profit margins in a big way, and forcing us to think about the future course of action, he said.

– Prakash VL

THE LIFESAVERS

Bengaluru Traffic Police's north division forms team to aid accident victims during golden hour, reduce number of deaths

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In medical science, the golden hour is known as the time period immediately following an injury when the chances of survival are optimum. It is well known that people who suffer accidents on highways often lose their lives as they miss the golden hour without getting basic first aid and not reaching the hospital. To provide strategic help to such patients, the Bengaluru Traffic Police (BTP) north division has formed a team of volunteers who will assist accident cases in the golden hour.

"National highways are prone to accidents from overspeeding vehicles. Due to such incidents occurring frequently on highways, they don't get the required timely medical support. To aid such cases, we have selected strategic locations and have decided to form the Neravu team," said DCP BTP North, Savitha S.

Neravu comprises of volunteers who will rush to the aid of the victim and provide sustained support until the patient reaches the hospital.

Observing that in most cases, locals witness these accidents and have the ability to reach the spot quicker than any police official, BTP north's Neravu team comprises teashop owners, residents, crane operators, ambulance operators.

The team has been formed along with five local police stations: RT Nagar, Hebbal, Chikkajala, Devanahalli, and Yelahanka. This will also allow the police to get a tip-off about accidents quicker and they would be able to deliver the information to the volunteers who can rush to the spot.

The teams were formed approximately two months ago. Based on the area, the number of teams has formed. There are four teams in Hebbal, three teams in Yelahanka, 10 teams in Chikkajala and one team in Devanahalli.

"Under the Jeevan Dooth initiative, the Chikkajala police station has been given training and first aid kits have been distributed. Other stations also will be provided with kits and training soon. Other stations have been equipped with emergency numbers of toeing vehicle and ambulance operators," added Savitha.

The golden hour is that crucial period when first aid can reduce mortality rate significantly: (inset) a training session

The victims can reach hospitals within the golden hour. Accident victims often die enroute or due to a delayed response. Sometimes, victims are not familiar with the area of the accident to secure medical help themselves, she added.

In addition, a team will also coordinate with towing vehicle operators to shift vehicles immediately in case of accidents and prevent traffic jams.

The Good Samaritan Law allows a person, without expectation of payment or reward and any duty of care or special relationship, to voluntarily administer immediate assistance or emergency care to a person injured in an accident, crash, or emergency medical condition.

But traffic officials note that off late, people have stopped doing so due to fear of the police. BTP hoped that the constitution of the Neravu team will allow citizens to do good fearlessly.

"Under the Jeevan Doot program, under the aegis of United for Road Safety, we provide training to polive stations. We teach them about the first steps to be taken upon reaching the accident site, educate them about the golden hour, how to control bleeding, etc. We have already completed training in six police stations and have trained around 140 police officers," said Sardhar Basheer, program manager of Jeevan Doot.

We also provide first-responder kits. Each kit contains instructions on how to help victims and other requisites to help victims. In the five stations, we are also establishing first responder booths that will have stretchers, torches, cones, bandages and medicines that cost around Rs 1.5 lakh, he added.

"My task is to lift the vehicles and move them," said Jayaram, a member of Neravu and a crane operator.

"We have offered three ambulances for this service. In emergency cases, we rush to the spot and take them to the nearest government hospital, said Uday Kumar, owner of an ambulance.

IT notice to ex-PM Deve Gowda's wife

The Income Tax department has issued a notice to former Prime Minister H D Deve Gowda's wife Chennamma regarding her property, their son and former Karnataka minister H D Revanna said on Monday.

"Let them (IT) issue notice to us. We are growing sugarcane in our land. They should come and see," he told reporters in the district headquarters town of Hassan.

Former chief minister and JD(S) second-in-command H D Kumaraswamy expressed ignorance about any notice being served to his mother.

"I have no information about the notice but if they have served it, then we should not panic. In our family, our activities are like an open book," Kumaraswamy told reporters in Bengaluru.

The JD(S) leader said even if the Income Tax notice has been issued, there was no need to bother about it.

"No one can do anything if we are clean and transparent," the former chief minister said, adding that they will reply to the notice accordingly. He also underlined that the notice served to his mother should not be used for political gain.

According to him, the case will be 'finished' once they furnish the information that the IT officials have sought regarding their properties.

"In 60 years of his political life, Deve Gowda never gave importance to money, nor did we," Kumaraswamy said.

There was no immediate response from the IT department regarding the notice.

– PTI

CET on June 16 and 17

The Common Entrance Test 2022, an eligibility test to seek admission for professional courses in the state, will be held on June 16 and 17, Dr CN Ashwath Narayan, Minister for Higher Education, announced on Monday.

He also added that the dates have been scheduled by taking into account the probable schedule dates for similar tests in other states.

While exams for Biology (morning) and Maths (afternoon) are scheduled on June 16, Physics (morning) and Chemistry (afternoon) will be held on June 17.

Kannada Language Test will be conducted on 18-06-2022 for Horanadu and Gadinadu Kannadiga candidates at selected centres. The candidates can register their names for CET-2022 from April 5 to April 20 and submit applications online. Candidates and pay the prescribed fee online before April 22.

If the applicants wish to update any information after paying the fee, they will be given time to do so from May 2 - May 6. Later, candidates can download their admission tickets starting from May 30, he said.

– BMB

There is no one way to ride safely at Hoodi Jn

KR Puram traffic police to implement two way system at Hoodi Triangle Junction, on pilot basis, to help commuters travel faster, easier, safer

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After the one way was implemented at the Hoodi triangle junction within the KR Puram traffic police station's limits, many continued to use it as a two way. Therefore, the traffic police has decided to make the junction a two way on a pilot basis.

Several residents complained about the issue earlier when it was made a one way route. As they have to travel a longer distance while using the route like a one way road, many began to use it as a two way. The road is used by buses, tempos, water tankers, four wheelers and two wheelers and is quite busy. So traffic violators are facing a high risk situation while using it in this manner. Such violations can lead to terrible accidents.

With the KR Puram police station's new pilot project to turn the road into a two way route, residents are hoping to enjoy safer commuting experiences. If the project is successful, folks can use the road like a two way route without violating traffic rules or risking lives on a daily basis. This would also help save time.

"We have been receiving many complaints from residents regarding one-way violations and also the long distance people need to travel because of the one-way implementation. We are glad that the KR Puram traffic police listened to the feedback and are trying to change things," Clement Jayakumar, secretary, Mahadevapura Task Force - Mobility, said.

BM spoke to a retired senior traffic warden too. Ajit Lakshmiratan, a resident of Whitefield, explained: "It is going to be very helpful as commuters have been flouting one way rules for a long time. A two way implementation can prove to be helpful and safer for everyone."

Some residents pointed out, after Metro works began, the roads were made wider and are of better quality and there is no need for a one way junction. "Many tend to use the one way route as a two way, creating the risk of accidents... Bringing back the old two way system will help all the roads in Whitefield," a resident said.

Above: A file pic of the traffic congestion in Whitefield. Below: A map of the Hoodi Triangle Junction

> **We will depute additional traffic policemen to ensure the two way system works fine**
> – A traffic police officer

The KR puram traffic police stated, this move is for the benefit of the public and to implement safe travelling. "We will depute additional traffic police men to ensure that the two way system works fine. There have been demands to even look into the ABB junction which will be inspected as well," a traffic police officer said.

Minister: By Oct B'luru - Mysuru will be 75 mins

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The much delayed Bengaluru - Mysuru highway will be completed by October, according to union transport minister Nitin Gadkari. Gadkari took to Twitter to announce that the project was moving as per plan.

"The 117-km stretch of NH-75 connecting Bengaluru to Nidaghatta to Mysuru is being developed at a cost of Rs 8,350 crore. The construction work is nearing completion and will be completed by October 2022," he wrote. The 10-lane project includes a six-lane access controlled highway with four-lane service roads on either side. Currently, a four-laned highway passes via congested towns.

The current travel time between Mysuru and Bengaluru is more than three hours. Gadkari claimed it will come down to 75 minutes once the new expressway is operational.

The project was supposed to be completed earlier but was affected due to the pandemic.

The works have been divided into two phases: Bengaluru - Nidaghatta and Nidaghatta - Mysore sections. A 4.22-km flyover is being built near Panchamukhi Ganesha temple. The Bengaluru - Mysuru section will have 53 kms of Greenfield roads in the form of bypasses: Bidadi (7 km), Ramanagara - Channapatna (22 km), Maddur (7 km, including 3.5 km of elevated highway), Mandya (10 km) and Srirangapatna (7 km). A new lay-bye with amenities will be created at the Ramanagar by-pass road. Toll booths will come up at Kumbalgodu and Srirangapatna. The authorities have also identified 69 junctions along the highway which will see 50 underpasses and 19 flyovers so that there are no crossings at grade junctions.

Bengaluru – Mysuru highway

When the project was announced in 2018, the cost was estimated to be Rs 6,400 crore and now it has been revised to Rs 8,350 crore.

"There has been tremendous pressure to open the road by Dasara. The work for the first phase until Nidaghatta is running at a good pace. But the second phase of the project was delayed as tenders were delayed," said Narendra S, a techie.

Further, he said the travelling time is affected by heavy vehicular movement right now and is worse during weekends.

"Major towns and villages don't have any bypasses as of now. Once bypasses are constructed and there is no access to the main carriage way, the travelling is set to be hassle free. The project will benefit those going to Mysuru and Kodagu or Ooty as well."

There is also a proposal to ban bikers from using the main carriage way and allowing them to use only service roads.

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Safetree first
Jayanagar

This trees along 36 A Cross, 9th Main, 5th Block, are old; branches may fall at any time. Leaves falling from the trees are constantly littering the road. Safety and cleanliness are neglected here.

The illegal
SP Road

Take a look at this road. It is spotted with encroachments and flex boards. BBMP must take notice and action against the violators.

Repairs required
Thirumenahalli

There are no proper roads here and the sewage system is flawed too. Will the authorities concerned repair the roads here?

Deer under attack

Spotted deer lives threatened by feral dogs in, around Turahalli Forest; residents say it's high time forest department takes some action

The wounded deer spotted by residents of Saptagiri Layout near Turahalli Forest

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Residents of Saptagiri Layout near Turahalli Forest witnessed an unusual sight from their balconies on Saturday afternoon -- a spotted deer lying on the road, motionless. They swung into action immediately and informed a local wildlife NGO's rescue team. However, by the time the team reached the hospital, the deer died due to injuries and a cardiac arrest.

"We noticed bite marks around its neck and reached out to the wildlife rescue team. The team arrived in no time and took the animal but we were informed it died due to a cardiac arrest. We were told the deer was attacked by street dogs from neighbouring villages," said Lakshmi Suresh, a resident.

Forest department officials confirmed the death of two spotted deer on Saturday afternoon in the area.

According to wildlife activists and locals, spotted deers of Turahalli Forest have been facing attacks from feral dogs in the area. This has been resulting in deaths of many every year.

"Many deers have fallen prey to the attack by village dogs in the past. While the animals are immediately rescued and taken to a hospital, despite all medical prowess, these attacks are far too severe and the animals fail to survive the traumatic experience caused by capture myopathy. We've written to the forest department many times about the issue but not much has been done," said a wildlife activist.

Wildlife experts said intervention is crucial to ensure these deers live in safety.

BM had reported in October 18 last year about an attack on a blackbuck

Restoration of the boundary walls of the forest is required as they have broken down over time, granting easy access to dogs.

"The compound walls are either low or damaged in many places, allowing the dogs to venture in. Residents have raised the issue but it has not been fixed," said another resident.

According to wildlife experts, rapid urbanisation and encroachment are among other issues plaguing the urban forest area.

"This is the fastest developing area of the city. The Turahalli forest is an amalgamation of multiple mini-forest patches in that region. There are many residential complexes almost attached to these patches and the forest is used by the people living on the periphery. While the compound wall will be a solace to the animals, the landscape of the area is different. It will be difficult to secure it completely due to the undulations. We will have casualties. The idea is to minimise these accidents," said Sharath Babu, wildlife activist.

Many pointed at the importance of an effective liaison between BBMP and the forest department to ensure the dogs in and around Turahalli are neutered and vaccinated. This would ensure fewer territorial and aggressive dogs.

Dr Manjunath Shinde, assistant director (animal husbandry), RR Nagar Zone, BBMP, said while the Animal Birth Control (ABC) programme is in place, any positive impact on the dog population can be seen only if the programme is conducted continuously and consistently for 10 to 12 years.

> **"The Turahalli forest is an amalgamation of multiple mini-forest patches in that region**
>
> – Sharath Babu, wildlife activist

"The best solution is tall and non-porous compound walls around the forest area. The forest department must put up chain-link compound walls so the dogs do not enter," said Dr Shinde. According to Ravishankar SS, deputy conservator of forest, Bengaluru Urban division, the department is aware of the issue and work on it will begin soon.

"The compound walls are getting damaged during rains. They are also broken by miscreants. We plan to take up repair work this year to secure the forest area,"said Ravi shankar.

Operation quench thirst

People for Animals (PFA), will soon enter the woods to replenish the water resources of the area. The NGO, with permission from the forest department, will be sending tankers of water to help the animals survive the scorching heat.

"We started the initiative two years ago during summer. Dry months are here again. We plan to send water again in the coming week. Once summer arrives, the watering holes inside the forest dry up, forcing deers to go out looking for water during the evening and they fall prey to dogs. They also end up breaking their legs due to jumping out onto a concrete surface, mostly near BGS hospital," said Dr Nawaz Shariff, chief veterinarian, PFA.

Cricket cheers at city's pubs and bars

The IPL has generated a lot of excitement as people, now out of their fears of the deadly coronavirus, are enjoying the nail biting finishes. Even as all the matches are played in Maharashtra, the loyal fans of the Royal Challengers Bangalore are not missing the action. They are swarming to pubs which are offering them the stadium like experience with special arrangements.

During the Covid pandemic, according to sources, more than 300 pubs were closed and 500 in Bengaluru are in a dire situation. In spite of the gloom, the pub managements have invested this time to attract fans and they are getting good response.

Prathik Shetty, owner of the 'Reservoire' Pub in Koramangala of Bengaluru, told IANS, "we are trying our best to give stadium like ambience to cricket fans so that they don't miss out on not going to the stadium."

He explains that large screens have been put up and special menu has been prepared. "We will give everything possible like accessories to celebrate fours and sixes. We want to give a better ambience," he says.

Talking about the excitement, Prathik said that a special menu is prepared and cocktails and decorations are made with jerseys, flags to give a feeling of stadium. "It has been two years since spectators are not allowed in the stadium. There was no opportunity for the people to sit and enjoy IPL matches. Now, here is an opportunity for the fans to support their team and also support our industry which has been badly hit in the past two years," he appealed.

The pub owners are sceptical about the weekday matches. They however maintain that there would be a lot of excitement during the RCB matches and they will have to see when other teams play in the weekend. Last year's IPL was split, during the first wave the pubs were not allowed to open. During the second wave, the pubs were allowed with 50 per cent capacity. B.Govindaraja Hegde, General Secretary of the Federation of the Karnataka State Liquor Sellers, said that 80 per cent of the bars are decorated and are providing facilities to enjoy IPL matches and the business is now looking up. – IANS

PUBLIC NOTICE

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GOLD AUCTION CUM INVITATION NOTICE

The below mentioned borrowers have been issued notice to pay off their outstanding amount towards the facility against gold ornaments.("Facility") availed by them from ICICI Bank Limited ("ICICI Bank"). We are constrained to conduct an auction of pledged gold ornaments on **April 08, 2022** as they have failed to repay the dues. ICICI Bank has the authority to remove account /change the auction date without any prior notice. Auction will be held online -**https://gold.samil.in** between **12:30 pm** to **3:30 pm.** For detailed Terms and conditions, please log into given website. In case of deceased borrower, all conditions will be applicable to legal heirs.

Loan A/C No.	Customer Name
Branch Name: Afzalpur - Havalaga	
254405000718	Bairappa Shivappa Hipparagi
Branch Name: Arsikere	
281305006151	Mahanthesh L H
281305003554	Kumar *
281305005258	Syed Aejaz Ahamed
Branch Name: Bagalkote	
053205008622	Patil Shivanagoud
053205007972	Abdul Gani
Branch Name: Bangalore - Bagalur	
231805000456	R Kamalakannan
Branch Name: Bangalore - Battarhalli	
369805001390	Balakrishna .
Branch Name: Bangalore - Chandra Layout	
231705002353	Ravichandra N
Branch Name: Bangalore - Kothanur	
185005000865	Mahendra K
185005001055	Shashi Kumara
Branch Name: Bangalore - Margosa Road	
343705000748	Kiran Kumar M
Branch Name: Bangalore - Sampige Road	
413905000750	Yoga Mala Sk
Branch Name: Bangalore - Wilson Garden	
343605001335	Gariga Anitha
343605001389	Anil Kumar Bhat C
Branch Name: Bangalore-Bangarpet	
047805008886	Damu S
047805009546	Murali S
Branch Name: Bangalore-Bannerghattaroad	
100705003624	Basu Tiwari
100705003228	Gandepudi Vijay Kumar
100705003233	Gandepudi Vijay Kumar
Branch Name: Bangalore-Basaveshwarnagar	
230105002638	Naveen Kumar K
230105002643	Mahesh B
Branch Name: Bangalore-Bidaditown	
141405003900	Bharathi
141405002694	Suresh K
141405003058	Sanjay R
141405003947	Sanjay R
141405003810	Sunitha Sunitha
141405003879	Mahesh K M
141405003901	Mangalagowramma Mangalagowramma
Branch Name: Bangalore-Jayanagar	
005305012658	Ranjana Ramesh V V
Branch Name: Bangalore-Jp Nagar 4th Phase	
344105000600	Sumit Bihari
344105000485	Ambika Arjun Hebsur
Branch Name: Bangalore-Jpnagar	
040105005716	Abdul Rasheed
040105005729	Saraswathi A
040105005740	Sachin Km
Branch Name: Bangalore-Kumarswamy Layout	
317605000816	Pavankumar N

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Branch Name: Bangalore-Rr Nagar Beml	
439805000230	Shashikumar M V
Branch Name: Bangalore-Rtnagar	
020405006568	Arun Kumar R
020405010499	Aslam Basha
Branch Name: Bangalore-Ulsoor	
390405000797	Hanumanth Alias Jaysheel Belgaumkar
Branch Name: Bangalore-Vijayanagar	
015905009968	Jeevitha R
Branch Name: Channapatna	
141605008236	Shaji Ulla
141605009370	Shakunthala *
141605009257	Aslam Khan
Branch Name: Chitapur	
412505000454	Mr Murugendra
412505001268	Moulambi A
412505001986	Bhimashankar C
412505001988	Srimanth M
412505001993	Thirupathi M
412505001996	Mahesh A
Branch Name: Dod Ballapur	
317405000330	Venkatesh .
Branch Name: Gulbarga	
045805007961	Asma Anjum
045805006897	Karabasappa Karabasappa
045805006932	Babapatel Babapatel
045805007965	Kashinath Veeranna
Branch Name: Gunjur	
743105000133	Harikrishna V B
Branch Name: Hassan	
105905017366	Manu S
105905015239	Kantharaju *
105905014259	Syed Sumer
105905020011	Rakeeb M D
105905016674	Manu K M
105905017419	Roopadevi *
Branch Name: Hassan - K R Puram	
438905000602	Yadunandana G N
Branch Name: Ilkal	
650705003108	Shekavva Pammar
650705002949	Girigouda Totad
650705003099	Mahantesh Hiremath
650705003655	Thakrappa Nayak
650705004221	Amaresh Nashi
Branch Name: Jamakhandi	
651505060092	Saidu Yamannavva Halemani
651505058743	Ashok Madarakhandi
651505059234	Anis Pathan
Branch Name: Jevargi	
413405001556	Husen Basha
413405001470	Amritha Gouda *
413405001488	Mahammad Ifteqar
413405001492	Md Sharukh
413405001502	Bablu *
413405001537	Devanand Hosamani
413405001543	Jeelani *
413405001547	Sharanabasappa *
413405001585	Mareppa *
413405001594	Devindra *

Loan A/C No.	Customer Name
Branch Name: Mallanayakanahalli	
375005000616	Suresha V C
375005001126	Muni Swamy
375005001194	E Sharavana
Branch Name: Mangalore	
001405010280	Mohammed Saud
Branch Name: Mangalore-Valencia	
115305000739	Naimunnisa Naimunnisa
115305000751	Naimunnisa Naimunnisa
Branch Name: Mudbidri	
115505003321	Raveesh *
Branch Name: Mudhol	
141305005451	Jayashri R Joshi
Branch Name: Puttur	
173405002165	Sadashiva Rai
Branch Name: Rabkavi	
649805002948	Rajkumar Bhajantri
Branch Name: Sakleshpur	
421505001400	Hameed T A
421505001992	Mithun Mithun
Branch Name: Shahapur	
052105005314	Srinivas .
052105007062	Mallanna Devappa
Branch Name: Sindgi, Karnataka	
364605003674	Alagur Makbool
364605001266	Allabax Managulli
364605003748	Bhashapatel Hachadad
364605003714	Sunil Saganur
364605003702	Sunil Pawar
Branch Name: Terdal	
650005003572	Shivappa Lakkappa Hanagandi
650005005434	Shivappa Lakkappa Hanagandi
650005004336	Hajarath Saidu Taratari
650005006150	Prabhu Bujabali Madabhavi
Branch Name: Tikota	
650805006340	Somu Pawar
650805004871	Mayappa Hunavad
650805004286	Renuka S Pidakar
650805005594	Renuka S Pidakar
650805003037	Vivekanand Bhajantri
650805004932	Vivekanand Bhajantri
650805004635	Somanath Teli
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101005004268	K Ravindra
101005004270	Praveen Kumar

Date : 29.03.2022
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Job access for autistic persons

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"I have seen 26-year-olds with the cognition and social skill sets of six-year-olds. It is extremely challenging to mould these individuals into professionals. They undergo undue pressure in mainstream education that fails to customise an educational plan to meet the needs of the autistic mind," she added.

According to Shetty, information is processed in a neurotypical brain quite differently compared to an autistic brain. "The autistic brain learns through repetition, sensory learning and interactive personalised associations. Tech in the pedagogy may help to bring better results; to make education more visual and duplication becomes easier. If the brain is tired of reading, one can listen to audio. If a student is prone to get bored and requires visual stimuli, they can watch a documentary or

film," she added.

Another problem is a lack of community. "Most of my students want to have an active social life but we don't have a social support system. Parents who have neurotypical children fear their children would end up learning odd or inappropriate behaviour from an autistic person," added Shetty.

Vocational centres, educational institutions and experts providing timely, regular and affordable counselling is critical. Experts questioned unreasonable counselling sessions costing anywhere between Rs 2,000 to Rs 5,000 per hour.

"People don't see autism as a disability as it is not physically visible. It's an everyday struggle to spread awareness and break misconceptions. Mainstream schools are not providing a conducive environment for education of autistic persons. Sound-sensitive autistic children might be easily distracted by loud sounds such as the ringing of school bells. The alternative is an open school. Students are provided with 4-5 years to complete; the subjects are vast. There is a need for a dedicated curriculum that removes unnecessary subjects as well," said Vidya Anand, a parent of a 21-year young adult with autism.

Founder and director of Bubbles for Autism, Sharbani Mallick said the biggest challenge is finding the right spot aligned with interests and skill sets. "Employers are unable to find ways to utilise their skill sets. I have a student who can recall all the bus numbers between points A and B. Another student can tell you the day instantly based on the date. So, there is a need to create more vocational opportunities around skillsets," said Mallick.

Mallick mentioned three trainees who went for an internship at Thomson Reuters and two of them were offered jobs. She said the essence of this success were the 'buddies' assigned to them, who helped them navigate through the process.

With over 15 years of experience in working with autistic individuals, Poonam Shetty noted there is in fact a wide variety of job opportunities to be explored. "A big chunk of career options have opened up for autistic individuals. Cooking and sport are not explored to potential," she added.

Tech access

"Companies should work on making technology more accessible. There is a huge user base that is left behind. Engineers should take up careers in accessibility development. It is non-negotiable for tech companies to invest in accessibility," said programme director at Ishanya India Foundation, Anoop Simha.

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I, GLORY MARK W/o No. 15315121K Rank: Ex Hony Nb Sub Name: Mark M residing at 3/69, First Street, Satyamangalam, Viluppuran, Tamilnadu-604153 have changed my name to GLORY M affidavit dated 26.03.2022 before notary A.R Muneer Ahmed, Bangalore.

I, Rajbanti, R/o Kethana Accolade, Sarjapur Road, Doddakenalli, Bangalore have changed my name to Rani Gupta

I, SATEESH PATIL R/at Treeprovident 1A 401, Ward 72, 2nd Main Road, Herohalli, Syndicate Bank Layout, Bengaluru- 560091 have changed my name to SATEESSPATIL vide affidavit dated:28/3/2022 Before Notary M.Rajendra Bangalore.

I, Divyashree Muniswamy Venkataramana W/o Bharath Kumar M, R/o No.66, 8th main road, NRI Layout, Ramamurthy Nagar, Bengaluru 560016 have changed my name to Divyashree Bharath Kumar affidavit Dt.28/03/2022, notary Muneer.A, B'luru.

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Most people go their whole lives without having their story written. An obituary is where one can do them justice, where one can record their memory so that they live on forever. It's their life story, preserved to make sure the world remembers them.
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I, Madhavi Latha, R/O 207, Ferns City, Doddanekkundi, Bangalore 560037 have changed my name from Dwaraka Bhamidipati Sarva Naga, Madhavi Latha to Madhavi Latha.

I, Kalpana Prabhatkumar Gurjar W/o. Nitin Arvindbabu Alawani, R/o Prince Town, No.1 & 2, Shettihalli Main Road, Jalahalli West, Bangalore - 560 015, have changed my name to Namrata Nitin Alawani for all purposes, Notary affidavit 26/03/2022.

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LOST & FOUND

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I, Nihar Ranjan Rout S/o Sashi Kanta Rout, residing at No. 187, G.P Rajarathnam Road, BTS Layout, Arekere, B.G Road, Bangalore-560076, have lost my ICSE 10th Marks Card, Candidate ID: 6188139 of the year 2016 while in transit near my house. Finders please contact: 6362637484

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Minor hurdles on Day 1 of exams

Most students gave their exams, a few were sent away for wearing hijab

PICS: KAUSHIK JN

The SSLC exams began in offline mode with 97.5 pc of students writing at their respective centres. Special rooms were arranged for 335 students who were not feeling well. Most of the students gave their exams in uniform and only a few abstained and some were sent back for wearing hijab.

In Bengaluru, a student was not initially allowed to write exams as she didn't wear a uniform. However, after much convincing, the school principal allowed the student. The Department of Education has suspended an invigilator for refusing to take off hijab while conducting the examination at KSTV High School. Noor Fathima, who was on exam duty, came clad in a hijab. When she was asked to remove it, she refused and was later sent back from the examination centre and suspended, sources in the education department said. One of the students who came for exams wearing a hijab in Ilkal Government School in Bagalkot district decided not to appear for the same when she was asked to remove it.

In another incident, six fake candidates including a girl student appearing for exams on behalf of other students were detained by the police in Chikodi city of Belagavi district. The authorities caught them while inspecting their hall tickets. Anushree, a class 10 student who was giving her exam collapsed and died of a heart attack at the T. Narasipur centre in Mysuru district. Belagavi MLA Anil Benake welcomed some hijab and burqa clad students by offering them flowers. Later, these students removed their hijab and burqa and attended the exams.

Many parents of the minority girl students who came to drop their wards said that education is important for them.

Section 144 was clamped in and around 3,444 examination centres across the state and tight police security was deployed at all examination centres to avoid any showdown or untoward incidents. As many as 60,000 government officers monitored the examinations. **(BMB and agencies)**

TRACKING IPL 2022

RCB skipper Du Plessis expresses disappointment after loss against PBKS

#Mumbai

Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) skipper Faf du Plessis expressed disappointment after his side got thrashed by Punjab Kings (PBKS) in their Indian Premier League (IPL) 2022 clash on Sunday. Punjab Kings scored 208/5 in 19 overs in reply to Royal Challengers Bangalore's 205/2 to register a five-wicket win in Match-3 of the IPL 2022 played here at the DY Patil Stadium on Sunday.

"I think the batting was really good. The catches towards the end. Odean Smith 25 off 8 balls. I think we probably dropped him on 10. After that, we are looking at some tailenders coming in. The cliche of catches win watches. There was a bit of dew out there, a tough night for the bowlers, but I thought they were pretty decent with the wet ball. Small margins, but they chased it down really well. They had a really good powerplay," said Du Plessis after the match.

"The ball skidded on a bit more in the second innings and then we pulled it back beautifully. We did a lot of good things in the middle. But you know what Odean Smith can do to you. So you got to hold on to those chances. Even Shahrukh Khan, didn't really nail it tonight until the last couple of balls. So a completely different game if you hold on to those chances. I am tired!" he added. **ANI**

Govt's silence over boycott of Muslim traders questioned

PUCL writes open letter to Governor, Chief Minister condemning the boycott of traders at temple fairs

Bellie.Thomas
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @Bellie_MIRROR

Hitting out at the government on banning traders of the minority community (Muslims) from running their businesses at religious fairs in Karnataka, the People's Union for Civil Liberties (PUCL) - Karnataka has written an open letter to the Governor and the Chief Minister of the state condemning the econmic boycott of Muslim traders at temple fairs in the state and the government's 'silence' on the issue.

Perturbed by the news from a section of media barring Muslim traders from participating in auctions for the annual festival in Mahalingeshwara Temple in Puttur district, and further the Hosa Marigud Temple in Udupi district refusing to allot stalls to Muslim traders, the PUCL terms it as a dangerous unconstitutional economic boycott.

According to the letter, the boycott calls are sought to be given a fig leaf of legitimacy by referring to Rule 31(12) of the 2002 Rules of the Karnataka Hindu Religious Institutions and Charitable Endowments Act 1997, which state that no property, including land, building or sites situated near the institution shall be leased out to non-Hindus. However, as senior advocate Chander Uday Singh pointed out this is a deliberate misinterpretation of the provision as Rule 31 only deals with long-term leases of immovable property owned by a temple (up to 30 years for land, and five years for shops and buildings). It does not deal with the short-term licenses which would be used to allot stalls or spaces to vendours during a festival.

Both economic boycott and calling for economic boycott is violative of the constitutional promise of non-discrimination enacted in Article 15.

Article 15, explicitly prohibits discrimination on grounds of religion, besides race, caste, sex, or place of birth. Article 15(2) further proclaims that no citizen be subject to any 'restriction' with regard to 'access' to shops', maintained wholly or partly out of State funds or dedicated to the use of the general public.'

It bears noting that for Babasaheb Ambedkar, 'shops' was to be interpreted broadly to prohibit people from excluding others from economic life through boycotts based on religion, caste etc.

We should also remember that Babasaheb Ambedkar was a vociferous opponent of social and economic boycotts noting that it was a form of 'tyranny of the majority'. In his words, 'the method of open violence pales before it, for it has the most far reaching and deadening effect. It is more dangerous because it passes as a lawful method consistent with the theory of freedom of contract,' the letter stated.

"The call for social and economic boycott should deeply worry all Indians because of the tragic history of the aftermath of such boycott calls in world history. We should take these warnings seriously from history and silence is not an option for any constitutional authority. All constitutional authorities must step in to ensure that governance in Karnataka is in accordance with the Constitution and we do not go down a path taken by other countries such as Nazi Germany and Hutu power Rwanda," the letter read.

PUCL Karnataka's office bearers - President and advocate Arvind Narrain, General Secretary and advocate Robin Christopher and president of PUCL, Bengaluru, Shujayathulla also called for initiating criminal action against the organisations pressurizing and attempting to cause an economic boycott of the traders from the minority community.

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LOST IN THE SEARCH

There is a 'wrong' way to use the search engine Google. Here are 5 tips to set you on the right path

I was recently reading comments on a post related to covid-19, and saw a reply I would classify as misinformation, bordering on conspiracy. I couldn't help but ask the commenter for evidence. Their response came with some web links and "do your own research". I then asked about their research methodology, which turned out to be searching for specific terms on Google.

As an academic, I was intrigued. Academic research aims to establish the truth of a phenomenon based on evidence, analysis and peer review. On the other hand, a search on Google provides links with content written by known or unknown authors, who may or may not have knowledge in that area, based on a ranking system that either follows the preferences of the user, or the collective popularity of certain sites.

In other words, Google's algorithms can penalise the truth for not being popular. Google Search's ranking system has a fraction of a second to sort through hundreds of billions of web pages, and index them to find the most relevant and (ideally) useful information.

Somewhere along the way, mistakes get made. And it'll be a while before these algorithms become foolproof – if ever. Until then, what can you do to make sure you're not getting the short end of the stick?

Millions of answers

There are around 201 known factors on which a website is analysed and ranked by Google's algorithms. Some of the main ones are: the specific key words used in the search, the meaning of the key words, the relevance of the web page, as assessed by the ranking algorithm, the "quality" of the contents, the usability of the web page and user-specific factors such as their location and profiling data taken from connected Google products, including Gmail, YouTube and Google Maps.

Research has shown users pay more attention to higher-ranked results on the first page. And there are known ways to ensure a website makes it to the first page.

One of these is "search engine optimisation", which can help a web page float into the top results even if its content isn't necessarily quality. The other issue is Google Search results are different for different people, sometimes even if they have the same search query.

Results are tailored to the user conducting the search. In his book The Filter Bubble, Eli Pariser points out the dangers of this – especially when the topic is of a controversial nature. Personalised search results create alternate versions of the flow of information. Users receive more of what they've already engaged with (which is likely also what they already believe). This leads to a dangerous cycle which can further polarise people's views,

A work in progress

While Google Search is a brilliant search engine, it's also a work in progress. Google is continuously addressing various issues related to its performance.

One major challenge relates to societal biases concerning race and gender. For example, searching Google Images for "truck driver" or "president" returns images of mostly men, whereas "model" and "teacher" returns images of mostly women. Some years ago, Google reportedly had to block its image recognition algorithms from identifying "gorillas", after they began classifying images of black people with the term. Another issue highlighted by health practitioners relates to people self diagnosing based on symptoms.There can be serious repercussions for those who incorrectly interpret information found through "Dr Google" – not to mention what this means in the midst of a pandemic.

Google has delivered a plethora of covid misinformation related to unregistered medicines, fake cures, mask effectiveness, contact tracing, lockdowns and, of course, vaccines.

According to one study, an estimated 6,000 hospitalisations and 800 deaths during the first few months of the pandemic were attributable to misinformation (specifically the false claim that drinking methanol can cure covid).

To combat this, Google eventually prioritised authoritative sources in its search results. But there's only so much Google can do.

We each have a responsibility to make sure we're thinking critically about the information we come across. What can you do to make sure you're asking Google the best question for the answer you need?

Google smarter

In summary, a Google Search user must be aware of the following facts: Google Search will bring you the top-ranked web pages which are also the most relevant to your search terms. Your results will be as good as your terms, so always consider context and how the inclusion of certain terms might affect the result.

You're better off starting with a simple search, and adding more descriptive terms later. For instance, which of the following do you think is a more effective question: "will hydroxychloroquine help cure my COVID?" or "what is hydroxychloroquine used for?"

Quality content comes from verified (or verifiable) sources. While scouring through results, look at the individual URLs and think about whether that source holds much authority. Continue this process once you're in the page, too, always checking for author credentials and information sources.

Google may personalise your results based on your previous search history, current location and interests (gleaned through other products such as Gmail, YouTube or Maps). You can use incognito mode to prevent these factors from impacting your search results.

(By Muneera Bano, The Conversationion via PTI)

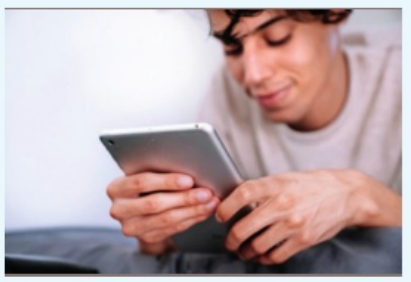
BITS & BYTES

SOCIAL MEDIA USE IMPACTS WELLBEING IN TEENS, STUDY FINDS

Girls and boys might be more vulnerable to the negative effects of social media use at different times during their adolescence, according to a UK research on Monday.

In a study involving University of Oxford and Cambridge experts published in 'Nature Communications', data shows that girls experience a negative link between social media use and life satisfaction when they are 11-13 years old and boys when they are 14-15 years old.

Increased social media use also predicts lower life satisfaction at the age of 19 years for both genders. This suggests sensitivity to social media use might be linked to developmental changes, possible changes in the structure of the brain, or to puberty,



which occurs later in boys than in girls.

"The link between social media use and mental wellbeing is clearly very complex," said Dr Amy Orben, from the University of Cambridge, who led the study.

"Changes within our bodies, such as brain development and puberty, and in our social circumstances appear to make us vulnerable at particular times of our lives," she said.

The expert noted the very large individual differences, which means there may be certain teenagers that benefit from their use of social media whilst at the same time, someone else is harmed. For both girls and boys, the research revealed that social media use at the age of 19 years was associated with a decrease in life satisfaction. At this age, say the researchers, it is possible social changes – such as leaving home or starting work – may make us vulnerable. **PTI**

EU agrees on new digital rules to rein in Big Tech dominance

The European Union set the stage for a stepped-up crackdown on big tech companies with an agreement on landmark digital rules to rein in online "gatekeepers" such as Google and Facebook parent Meta.

EU officials agreed late Thursday on wording for the bloc's Digital Markets Act, part of a long-awaited overhaul of its digital rulebook. The act, which still needs other approvals, seeks to prevent tech giants from dominating digital markets, with the threat of whopping fines or even the possibility of a company breakup.

For instance, they face tighter restrictions on using people's data for targeted online ads — a primary source of revenue for the likes of Google and Facebook. And different messaging services or social media platforms will be required to work together.

The new rules underscore how Europe has become a global pacesetter in efforts to curb the power of tech companies through an onslaught of antitrust investigations, stringent regulations on data privacy and proposed rules for areas like artificial intelligence.

Tech companies were not enthusiastic. Apple said it was concerned that parts of the Digital Markets Act "will create unnecessary privacy and security vulnerabilities for our users while others will prohibit us from charging for intellectual property in which we invest a great deal."

Google said it will study the text and work with regulators to implement it. "While we support many of the DMA's ambitions around consumer choice and interoperability, we remain concerned that some of the rules could reduce innovation and the choice available to Europeans," the company said. Amazon said it is reviewing what the rules mean for its customers. Facebook didn't reply to a request for comment.

The Act includes a number of eye-catching groundbreaking measures that could shake up the way big tech companies operate. **– AP**

HEALTH TIP: You want to avoid slumped shoulders, sitting in one position for a long period, and to reduce headaches, take short, regular walks

Aim for eight to 10 servings of colourful fruit and veg per day to boost antioxidants, vitamins and minerals needed for optimum body function

BangaloreMirror 9
Tuesday, March 29, 2022
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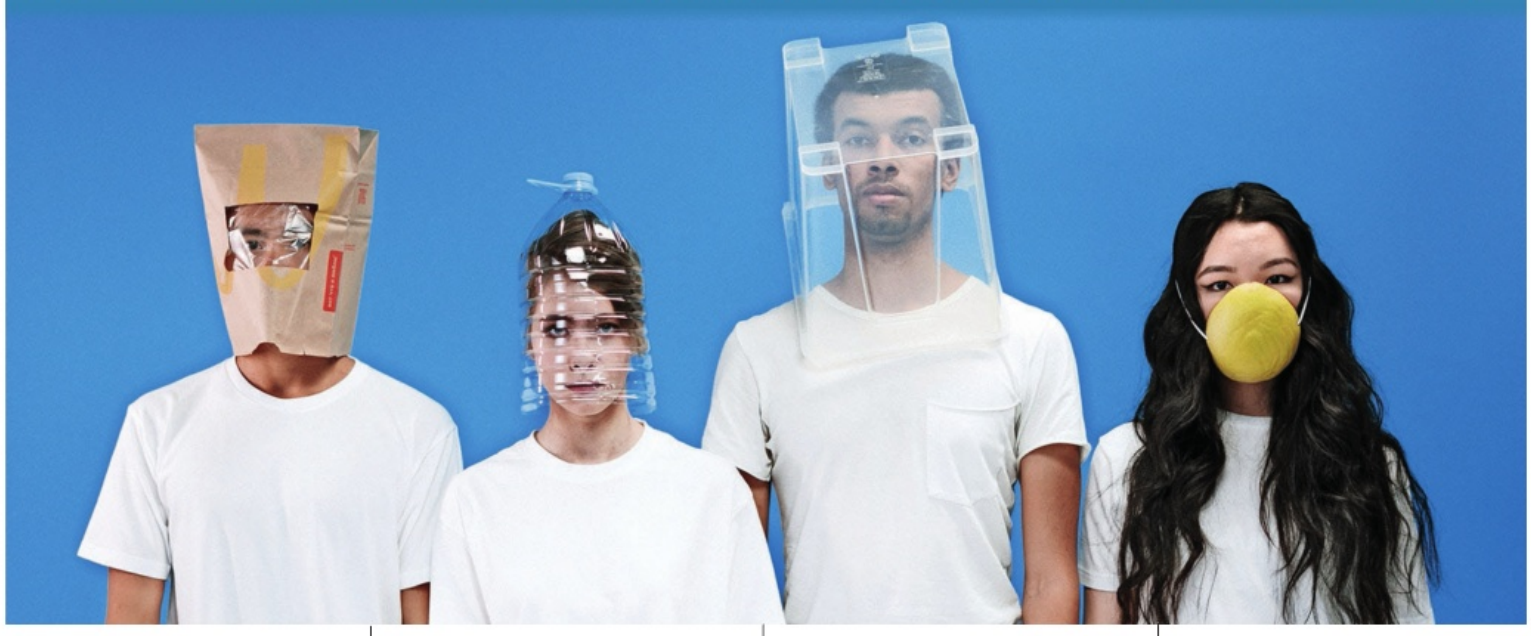
Covid in the time of no rules

Here's what you should and shouldn't do if you have covid when all the restrictions are lifted



We are all tired of covid. But even though the news has moved on to other concerning geopolitical issues, it is a fact that covid is still very much with us. Vaccines have certainly helped drive down its worst effects, but the disease is here to stay, and we must learn to live with it.

So what should you do now if you get covid? Anecdotally, many people seem to be ignoring the virus and carrying on regardless. This is perhaps not surprising given the end of self-isolation requirements and other rules are going to be relaxed soon. The message seems to be that covid is no longer so important. But even as the rules do relax, living with covid must not mean ignoring it.

Here are five things that covid has shown that we need to do, especially as cases are yet again increasing and new variants like deltacron continue to be discovered.

1 Be alert and stay away from others

Colds and respiratory illnesses are quite common, especially during the autumn, winter and spring months. For the majority of people, they are an inconvenience and not harmful.

But the older you get, the riskier they become. So even if you are young and at low risk, there are plenty of people who might get very ill if you give them covid. Likewise, there are plenty of people with complex health conditions who are at high risk of getting severely ill if they catch the coronavirus. Covid can also trigger life-changing conditions such as type 1 diabetes in people who are susceptible but otherwise apparently healthy.

So if you start to feel ill, rather than carrying on regardless, acknowledge the infection. Look at your diary and reschedule events where you will come into contact with lots of other people. Take advantage of flexible working opportunities if available. The sicker you are, the more you should stay away from others, as this is the best way to stop the virus spreading (although clearly seek medical help should you need it).

Your employer should respect this-- even if self-isolation is no longer legally enforced, doctors would advise you to self-isolate if you have tested positive or have covid symptoms.

2 Treat illness with respect

If you are the "carry on regardless" type, you may also be quite active and used to exercising. But if you sense you're getting ill, give your body a break.

Even after a mild covid case, doctors recommend waiting until you're over your sickness before exercising and easing back in gradually. Some experts believe that rushing back to exercise too quickly may raise the risk of developing post-exertional malaise, a symptom of long covid.

When living a fast-paced life, it can be difficult to slow down. But sometimes a day or two in bed and then returning to exercise slowly can be the main factor in preventing longer-term ill health.

> **The message we are getting seems to be that covid is no longer so important. But living with covid must not mean ignoring it**

3 Wash hands, cover face

As children, we are trained to wash our hands often, so the covid advice to keep good hand hygiene was perhaps not a surprise. However, people's response to wearing face masks was far more complex.

Face masks are particularly important if you have a respiratory infection like covid because they stop you spreading germs over other people, much like covering your mouth when you cough or sneeze.

If you are suspicious that you are developing covid, or even just a cold, wear a face mask if you have to be around other people. Face coverings are far more socially acceptable in western nations than they were prior to covid, and people will thank you.

4 Stay up to date with vaccines

During childhood, vaccines are taken care of for you, but as an adult it is very easy to let your vaccinations lapse, especially if they are not explicitly required for your profession. For example, prior to covid annual flu vaccines were increasingly being offered, but uptake was generally quite low.

It is possible that annual covid vaccinations could be offered moving forward. If they are, it would be wise to take advantage of this, even if you've had covid, because the virus will mutate and previous immunity will wane over time. Vaccines have been, and will continue to be, our best defence against covid.

5 Think about the long term

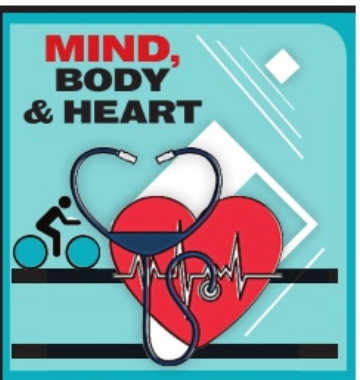
Very few of us can drop everything and hide for ten days should we become ill. Work and caring responsibilities in particular can be difficult to avoid. But over the medium to long term, our health and that of our families or colleagues is more important than missing a couple meetings, sports activities or a holiday.

If you think back over time, it is amazing how many "critical" activities turned out to be not quite so important as they felt at the time. Unfortunately, illness is a part of life. Come to terms with the idea that plans can, and do, change.

These five points probably sound a lot like common-sense behaviour. However, one fascinating aspect of ethics is that people refer often to "common sense", but almost always in the context of accusing other people of not having it – suggesting sense might not be quite as common as the phrase suggests.

On the contrary, evidence from the last few years suggests that many people won't follow this advice. Sadly, this means that people will continue to get severely ill and die from covid and other preventable diseases.

By Simon Kolstoe, University of Portsmouth, The Conversation via PTI



All problems solved

Dear Coleen

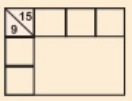
I know you regularly recommend couples' therapy in your column. So I would like to know if you think such an approach might be right for me and my husband. We've been married for 15 years and have been struggling for the past five. He had an affair, but he accused me of having previously checked out of our relationship after having the kids and never making an effort. Basically, he blames me for everything that went wrong. I do love him and we used to be really good together, but I'm not sure about counselling because the thought of raking up everything over and over makes my heart sink. I'd love your opinion.

COLEEN SAYS

I think you both have to really want to do it and you have to commit to it. The thing is, at the moment you are raking things up internally, but you're just not communicating how you feel. With counselling, inevitably you'll have to go through some pain and you must be willing to communicate and be open to change. It sounds to me as if there's a real problem with communication in your relationship. If your husband felt like you'd checked out of the relationship, he should have been able to tell you before seeking an affair. Counselling can be a way forward for people who can't communicate and if nothing else is working at the moment, why not give it a try? It might not work, but it might save your marriage. And even if you don't stay together, it can help you work through and understand your issues, which will make any separation easier. I think timing is important, too, and it's vital to act before the problems are so entrenched that you can't be helped.

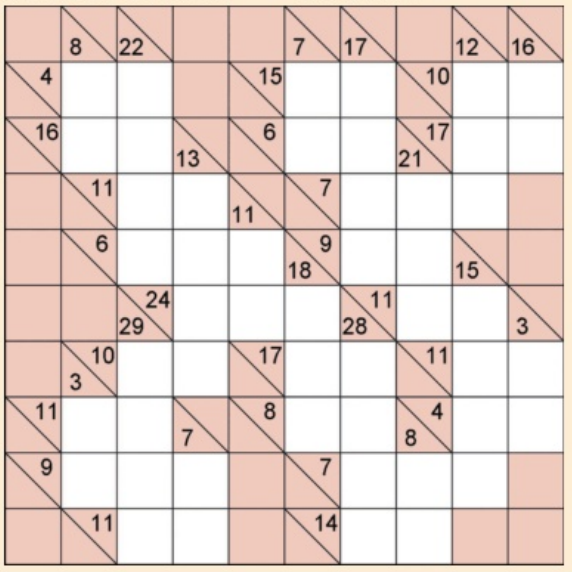
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

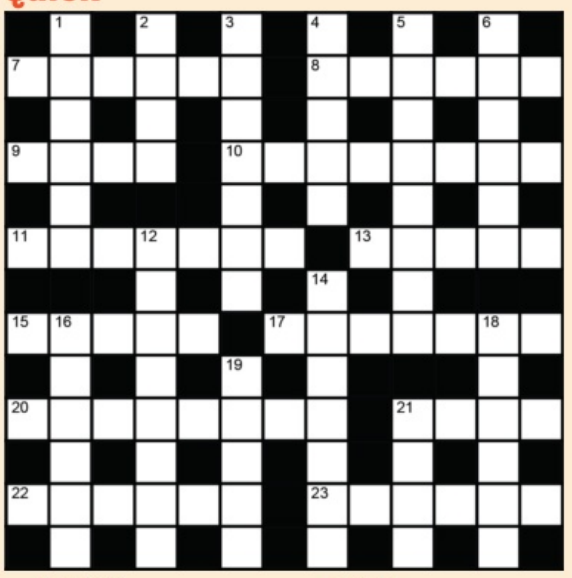


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 Sharp, darting pain (6)
8 Accommodated (6)
9 Let it stand! (4)
10 Went back on one's word (8)
11 Affected with horror or disgust (7)
13 Disagreement (5)
15 ___ on : was excessively fond of? (5)
17 Insects with elongated body (7)
20 Chess champion Gary ___ (8)
21 Famous temple in Basavanagudi (4)
22 A hard, acid fruit (6)
23 Mr.Khan of Bollywood (6)

DOWN

1 Involuntary muscular movement (6)
2 Fashion with needles (4)
3 A kind of dog (7)
4 Porcelain (5)
5 One-storey home (8)
6 Red Indian tents (6)
12 Sneaking or crawling (8)
14 Solicit votes (7)
16 Non-transparent (6)
18 Noted film maker of "Machis" fame? (6)
19 Avarice (5)
21 Ringing instrument (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: C EQUALS G

RQILJZDI KZPYH BLDI LFULMH GIIP SPWUP JW HTQDZDI LPM SZPY WE GLY JQLZPZPC.

Linemaro

Hi, I suffer from amnesia.
Do I come here often?

Mindchow

God gives every bird its food, but He does not throw it into its nest

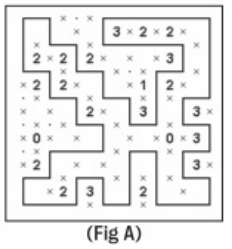
Joke of the day

Being paranoid means never having to think that you're alone

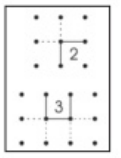
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

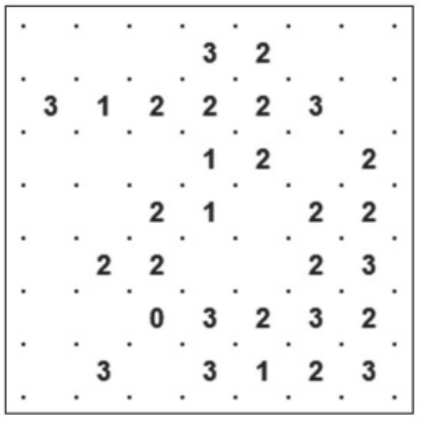


(Fig B) Not Allowed

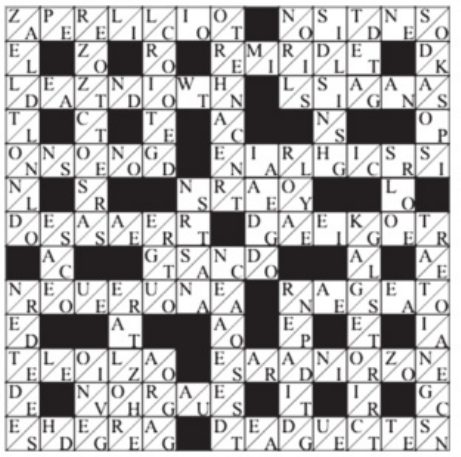
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...

1	2	3	4	5
6				
7				
8				
9				Y

ACROSS

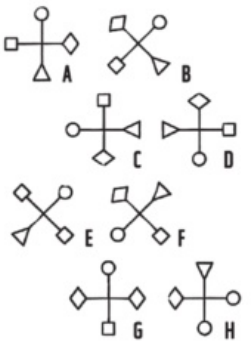
1 Wards; 6 Tears;
7 Go out; 8 So ire;
9 Pryer

DOWN

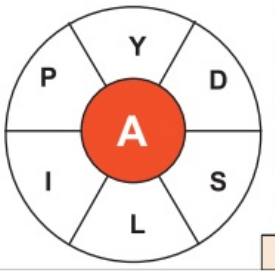
1 Do Pro; 2 Us ere;
3 Sitar; 4 A grew;
5 Troys

Mensapuzzle

Which of these designs match each other?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

14 Average; 16 Good; 18 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

		8	3	4	2	9		
		9				7		
4								3
		6	4	7	3	2		
	3						1	
		2	8	5	1	6		
7								8
		4				1		
		3	6	9	7	5		

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 10
2 2 3 9

Medium = 23
3 5 6 9

Hard = 7
2 8 9 7

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

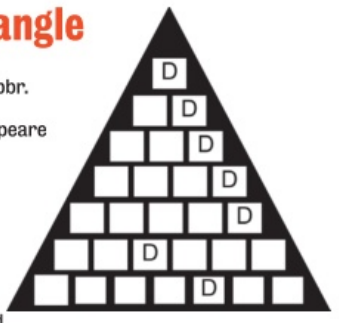
Differences: 1. Back of chair is different. 2. Box is different. 3. Collar is missing. 4. Burner is missing. 5. Refrigerator handle is lower. 6. Stove hood is wider.

Riddler

You dance in a circle of joined hands, And though they spin away I can always see your face, In the world, no matter where I am, One look at you and I know my place. What am I?

Alpha triangle

1 Five hundred
2 Advertisement, abbr.
3 Naughty
4 The Great Shakespeare
5 Baked dough
6 Bedevil
7 Shorten a book



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

WHAT ARE YOU TEACHING YOUR BEAR TODAY, JERKYMIAH?
AH THOUGHT I'D TEACH HIM TO FETCH
ON SECOND THOUGHT, MAYBE WE'LL WORK ON "YAWNING" TODAY

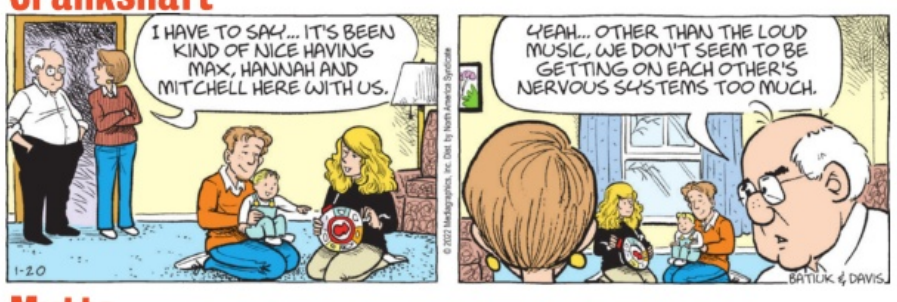
Bizarrotrip

Diamond Lil

Hart of the city

CHARLOTTE TOOK A STORY I TOLD HER ABOUT SOME MYSTICS THE GROUPING CHARACTERS AND THEN POSTED IT ONLINE!
I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW!
WOW, YOU WRITE FANFICTION? THAT'S AWESOME!
AM I THE ONLY ONE WHO DIDN'T KNOW WHAT FANFICTION WAS?
PROBABLY.

Crankshaft


I HAVE TO SAY... IT'S BEEN KIND OF NICE HAVING MAX, HANNAH AND MITCHELL HERE WITH US.
YEAH... OTHER THAN THE LOUD MUSIC, WE DON'T SEEM TO BE GETTING ON EACH OTHER'S NERVOUS SYSTEMS TOO MUCH.

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you will be blessed by the moon; new sources of income are likely to be opened. Your past investments will now start paying in terms of profits. Your losses will be converted to profits which will boost your financial health. Health issues related to parents may be resolved.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, you may implement your business plans with the help of your strong network. You may get a big order with the help of wisdom. There may be a good understanding between you and your spouse, which may increase harmony in your domestic life. Lovebirds may enjoy their happy moments.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, last day's messy situation will be under control. You will be blessed by the moon. You may initiate your postponed work. With blessings, you may get rewards for your hard work. There will be some gain in your business which may boost your finance. You may spend money on artefacts or literature. You may also plan for an overseas trip.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you may not feel well; you might have health issues. This may affect your profession and domestic life. You are likely to be upset due to your spouse's health issues. Your patience may be tested many times. You are advised not to make investments in new business projects otherwise you may face losses. Students are advised to avoid fantasies and work hard in their studies.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, you will be blessed by the moon; you may be able to take quick decisions on the professional front. You may expect to get new opportunities in terms of business which may boost your confidence level. You are likely to start some new innovation with the help of your partner, which may increase your business in the near future.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, you will be blessed by the moon; you may perform well at work; you may expect some promotions or transfer in terms of gains. You may also plan to change your current job. Your relations with the boss may be boosted now. Chronic health issues will be resolved now. This may make your family happy.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, things will be under control; you will enjoy your work; your focus will be good. This will reflect in your way of working. Your wisdom will help you to go ahead in taking difficult decisions in terms of profession. Your past investments will start paying off now.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, you may face disappointment in the current position at work or home. You may not enjoy your any moment. You may spend your hard-earned money in buying some worthless stuff which may affect your savings. You are likely to plan migrating from the current place. You are advised to take care of your parents' health.

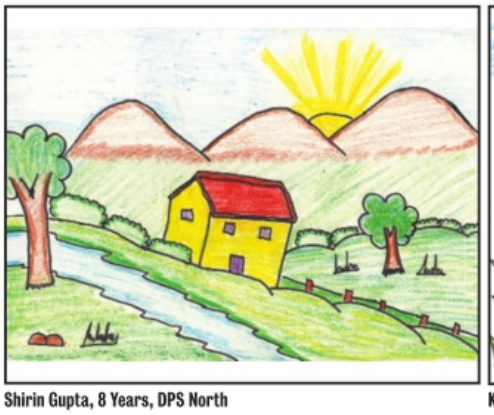
Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, you may take decisions very fast, which may give benefits in day-to-day life. You may take some difficult decisions with the help of your colleagues; you are likely to get success easily. Property-related disputes between siblings are likely to be resolved. You may also expect some short trips.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, you are advised to control your straightforwardness; your loose talk may affect people around you. You may spend your hard-earned money in buying some worthless stuff. Your mind is likely to work very fast; it is better to make an important decision with patience.

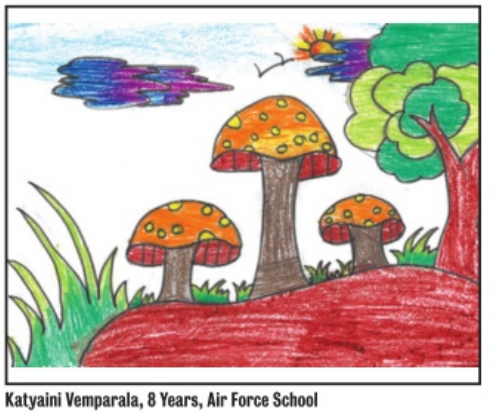
Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today, you will be blessed by the moon; last couple of days' disappointment may now convert to happiness. You may enjoy professional and personal life; your network may help you complete your postponed projects. You are likely to start some new venture with the help of your siblings and your network may support you in every step.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, you may feel negativity around you. You may feel impatience. Focus towards goals is likely to be lost. Your grip on your projects is likely to slow down, which may be a reason for loss in business or work. You may also noticed some detachments from your responsibilities, which may affect your day-to-day routine.

KIDZONE



Shirin Gupta, 8 Years, DPS North



Katyaini Vemparala, 8 Years, Air Force School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

RIDDLER
A clock. An analogue clock is a circle, and the hands of a clock are joined at the middle. The hands can point away from you, but the clock face is always visible. No matter where you are in the world, you can probably find a clock. "One look at you and I know my place...In time!"

SOLVE IN 1M
=|-8÷(-4)×(-8)|
=|2×(-8)|
=|-16|
=16

FAST FIVE

D	R	A	W	S
O	S	I	E	R
O	U	T	G	O
R	E	S	A	T
P	E	R	R	Y

STRIKE OUT

S	H	E	R	A	D	E	D	U	C	E	S			

QUICK

MENSA PUZZLE
A and F.

BULL'S EYE
daily, daisy, dial, DISPLAY, lady, laid, paid, pail, palsy, plaid, play, sadly, said, sail, slap, slay, spay, splay

QUOTE UNCODE
Creative minds have always been known to survive any kind of bad training.

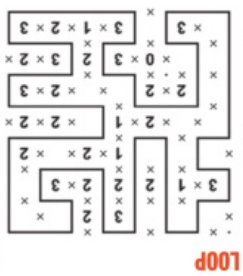
SUDOKU

6	7	8	3	4	2	9	5	1
3	2	9	1	8	5	7	6	4
4	5	1	7	6	9	8	2	3
5	1	6	4	7	3	2	8	9
8	3	7	9	2	6	4	1	5
9	4	2	8	5	1	6	3	7
7	6	5	2	1	4	3	9	8
2	9	4	5	3	8	1	7	6
1	8	3	6	9	7	5	4	2

ALPHA TRIANGLE
D, AD, Bad, Bard, Bread, Badger, Abridge.

GO FIGURE
Easy
2 x 2 – 3 + 9 = 10
Medium
3 + 5 + 6 + 9 = 23
Hard
7 – 8 x 2 + 9 = 7

LOOP



KAKURO

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Indian documentary loses

"Writing With Fire", the Indian documentary that chronicled the rise of a newspaper run by Dalit women, lost to "Summer of Soul (Or, When the Revolution Could Not Be Televised)" in the best documentary feature category at the Oscars

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Entertainment Industry Promotion

Will Smith gets whacky with host Chris Rock; Tennis stars Serena and Venus Williams; Beyonce and cast of CODA

The night emotion won

Though a slap almost took the centrestage on Academy Awards night, read on to see what other momentous moments were

#LOS ANGELES

Did I miss anything?" quipped Oscars co-host Amy Schumer, returning to the Dolby Theatre stage after a break. "There's a different vibe in here." Oh my, was there ever.

With a sudden, shocking outburst of anger from actor Will Smith, who bounded onstage to slap Chris Rock after the comedian joked about his wife's appearance, the theater was thrown into a state of deeply uncomfortable shock.

"Did we just see that?" people said to each other, as realization grew that the outburst was not pre-planned or meant as a joke.

The discomfort continued through the end of the show, even as a tearful Smith, as expected, won the best actor prize for "King Richard" and apologized to the academy, though not to Rock. Every Oscar show has its big moments, but this one overshadowed them all. Some key Oscar moments you saw on TV and some you didn't:

AN EARLY START

Remember when the most controversial thing about these Oscars was those awards they moved to the hour before the TV broadcast began? In the end, the theater was about two-thirds full and winners accepted their awards with nary a protest, and the most rabble-rousing speech of the relaxed (untelevised) proceedings was when a winner paid tribute to craftspeople on all movie sets. "Dune" took an early lead in those awards, ultimately taking six Oscars. And the team responsible for Jessica Chastain's metamorphosis in "The Eyes of Tammy Faye" won the Oscar for hairstyling and makeup.

A BIG WIN

It began on Oscar nomination day when Troy Kotsur, learning of his supporting actor nod for "CODA," literally fell off his chair in a video that went viral. He continued to charm Hollywood and by Oscar night Kotsur, who plays a randy father in the film about a deaf family with a hearing child, was a clear favorite. Still, his win was emotional _ many in the audience, including Chastain, Javier Bardem and Nicole Kidman, responded with waving hands _ what is known as a deaf clap.

TO BE IN AMERICA

Holding her Oscar in triumph, Ariana DeBose echoed the words of her famous character in "West Side Story," Anita. "Now you see why Anita says, `I want to be in America,'" said DeBose, who won for best supporting actress, as expected. "Because even in this weary world that we live in, dreams do come true.

DO SAY GAY

One might have expected there to be more political references on this Oscar night. There actually weren't too many, but several presenters and winners did refer to Florida's so-called "Don't Say Gay" bill. Co-host Wanda Sykes _ one of a trio with Schumer and Regina Hall - took a shot at the bill that passed a Republican-controlled state legislature earlier this month. "We're going to have a great night tonight," said Sykes, who is openly gay.

Red carpet stunners Alana Haim, Kodi Smit Mc-Phee and Timothee Chalamet

BEYONCE HOLDS COURT, BUT BOND WINS

After an opening greeting from Venus and Serena Williams, whose tennis-playing youth and life with their father is the subject of "King Richard," the opening number was performed by none other than Beyonce. The superstar sang her nominated song, "Be Alive," in a dance-heavy performance from an open-air stage in Compton, where the Williams sisters were raised. Even her star power didn't win the song an Oscar, though. It was Billie Eilish and her brother, Finneas, who won for their "No Time to Die" James Bond theme song.

OF 'KING RICHARD'

(You knew we had to get back to this one.) "King Richard" may not have won best song but it took the prize for Smith himself, not long after the slap heard 'round the world. A hugely emotional Smith rose to accept his trophy and began with a clear reference to what had just happened, noting that "Richard Williams was a fierce defender of his family. In this time in my life, in this moment, I am overwhelmed by what God is calling on me to do and be in this world. ..," He also noted that Denzel Washington had told him that "At your highest moment, be careful. That's when the devil comes for you." He apologized to the academy and said he hoped he'd be invited back. And Hollywood clearly was expressing its love: A stream of celebrities came over to comfort Smith after his slap moment, including Washington, Keith Urban and Nicole Kidman, Tyler Perry and others.

CAMPION CELEBRATES

At the post-Oscar Governor's Ball,it was a jolly mood but especially for Jane Campion, who impulsively broke out dancing in the packed room, surely an expression of joy at having won the best director Oscar for "The Power of the Dog." Her win was a moment for history, as it marked the first time the directing award went to women in back-to-back years.

Stars shimmer on the red carpet

Red was the standout color of the night, sequins were plentiful and the men of Tinseltown once again did not disappoint, with some daring color choices -- and "Dune" star Timothee Chalamet deciding a shirt wasn't strictly necessary.

Here are some highlights:

- Ariana DeBose took home an Oscar for best supporting actress for "West Side Story" -- and she showed up to claim it in... trousers.
- Past Oscar winner Marlee Matlin, who starred in the best picture winner "CODA," wore a long-sleeved Monique Lhuillier crimson gown.
- Jason Momoa added a pocket square in the colours of the Ukrainian flag to his all-black ensemble.

- If ever there is a night in one's life to sparkle, it is when one is nominated for an Oscar, and Jessica Chastain -- who won best actress honors for The Eyes of Tammy Faye" -- got the memo in her Gucci gown.
- Singer-actress Alana Haim, who stars in "Licorice Pizza," donned a shimmering silver Louis Vuitton column gown with scalloping details.
- Kodi Smit-McPhee, clad in a powder blue Bottega Veneta suit, seemed to be enjoying his Oscars moment.

Megan Oscar debut for Indian designer

American rapper and songwriter Megan Thee Stallion turned up the hotness quotient at this year's Oscars by marking her debut with a head-turning high-slit gown designed by Indian designer Gaurav Gupta.

At the 94th Academy Awards, Megan could be seen sporting a blue form-fitting strapless gown with a cut-out, high slit and flowing train on the red carpet. The rapper rounded up her look by adding silver Stuart Weitzman lace-up sandals and jewellery, highlighting her glam cat-eye makeup look.